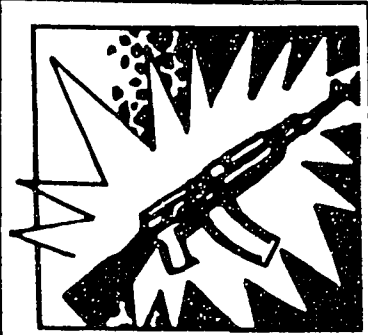


# Columbia Missourian

76th Year — No. 237

Good Morning! It's Friday, June 21, 1985

3 Sections — 18 Pages — 25 Cents



## A wave of terror

Leftist guerrillas were blamed Thursday for killing 13 people including six Americans in El Salvador.

See Page 2A.

Rescue works searched through the rubble Thursday after a car bomb exploded in Tripoli. Seventy-five people were killed and more than 100 injured.

See Page 2A.

Four fires destroyed the lobby of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington. Diplomats blamed the attack on Reagan administration "rhetoric."

See Page 3A.

President Reagan deplored the violence that has claimed seven American lives over the past week and warned "Our limits have been reached."

See Page 4B.

## Hostages put chill on rescue try Hijackers show off five Americans

United Press International

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Five American hostages under guard by their Moslem captors told a news conference Thursday they were well but under strain and beseeched President Reagan not to attempt any rescue that would lead to "unwarranted deaths among innocent people."

Allyn B. Conwell, 39, of Houston, who said he was speaking as an elected spokesman for the 40 hostages, also urged Israel to free some 760 Lebanese Shiite Moslem prisoners, as demanded by the hijackers.

Gunmen of the Shiite Moslem Amal militia headed by Nabih Berri presented the five American hostages — including a man from St. Louis — of TWA Flight 847 to reporters at Beirut airport, as diplomatic efforts were pressed to end the 7-day-old hostage drama.

Israel has told the United States it would not consider freeing the prisoners until Washington formally makes such a request. The United States has refused and State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb said Thursday there was no change in the U.S. position.

But officials in Jerusalem said later Thursday that Israel may release some of its prisoners before the American captives were freed

and Berri accepted a Swiss offer to mediate an exchange of the Americans and the Shiite prisoners.

At the news conference, Conwell said he could confirm that all 40 hostages from the hijacked TWA jet were "well" but under stress.

"We're all under a tremendous amount of strain and tension and concern," he said, calling the hostages "pawns in this tense game of nerves."

"The people in general here are in good health, in good spirits. I think they've done a hell of a job standing up to these adverse conditions," he said.

Conwell, who said he saw 37 of the 40 hostages Thursday afternoon, read a statement on their behalf warning the United States not to use military force to free them. He did not meet the three-man crew, who are still on the Boeing 727 parked at Beirut airport and also apparently in good health.

"We as a group do most importantly want to beseech President Reagan and our fellow Americans to refrain from any form of military or violent means as an attempt, no matter how noble or heroic, to secure our freedom," Conwell said.

"That would only cause, in our estimation, additional unneeded and unwarranted deaths

among innocent people.

"It is also our hope now that we are pawns in this tense game of nerves that the government and people involved in negotiations will allow justice and compassion to guide their way."

Conwell also urged Israel to release the Lebanese Shiite prisoners being held at the Atlit prison outside the port of Haifa.

The other four Americans at the conference were Thomas V.S. Cullins, 42, of Burlington, Vt.; Peter W. Hill, 57, of Hoffman Estates, Ill.; Arthur Toga of St. Louis, and Vincente Garza Jr., 53, of Laredo, Tex.

Later Thursday, ABC News reporter Julie Flint received a tape from Amal militia representatives with messages from five other American hostages, saying they were doing well but were looking forward to be with their family.

The voices of the following people were heard on the tape: Ralph W. Traugott of Lunenburg, Mass.; Jimmy Palmer of Little Rock, Ark.; Blake Synnsted of Philadelphia; Richard Herzberg of Boston, and Robert Trautman of Laredo, Texas.

"I'm alive and well living in Beirut and I'd like to say hello to my wife, Suzy, and my parents and tell them everything here could be

better, but I'm fine and will be out very soon," Herzberg said.

Berri, who has taken personal responsibility for the hostages since they were moved from the plane Monday to undisclosed locations in Beirut — also assured reporters that the captives were "in good health."

"They have television, good food and they have long conversations with the people who control them as their guests," he said.

Christian sources and the Christian-run Voice of Lebanon Radio, meanwhile, reported some of the Americans were held at barracks in northeast Lebanon by militant Moslem fundamentalists with close links to Iran.

The sources said the Hezbollah fundamentalist group held six Americans in the Sheikh Abdullah barracks in Baalbeck, 52 miles northeast of Beirut, a part of the nation controlled by Syrian forces and some Iranian revolutionary guards.

Another six Americans were held by Amal in Beirut's staunchly Shiite southern suburbs, the sources said.

The Amal leadership, meanwhile, disagreed over who was holding the remaining American hostages.

Col. Akef Haider, a member of the Amal's leading Politburo, told reporters the Amal had no direct control over the gunmen who seized TWA Flight 847 carrying 153 people and who he said were still holding the Americans.

## Realtors add reward for suspect

By Steven Bennis  
Missourian staff writer

Columbia's real estate community reacted with "extreme shock and agitation" Thursday to the rape and robbery of a 46-year-old real estate agent.

The Columbia Board of Realtors and the Missouri Association of Realtors posted a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of a man believed to have raped and robbed a Columbia real estate agent Wednesday. The award is in addition to a \$1,000 reward offered by a citizens group, CrimeStoppers.

The agent was raped at gunpoint in a home she was showing a man. She was then robbed of \$200 and driven by her assailant to the U.S. Post Office in downtown Columbia, roughly a block from the police station. She rushed to the station and reported the incident. The suspect escaped by car. The agent was treated and released Wednesday at an area hospital.

Capt. Carroll Highbarger of the Columbia Police Department said Thursday that three detectives are working on the case full time. He also has contacted the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the St. Louis Police Department.

Highbarger said that there was a similar incident in July 1984 in Arnold, Mo., just south of St. Louis, in which a real estate agent was attacked and robbed.

"We think it's the same person," Highbarger said. In that incident, Highbarger said a man approached a female agent and said that he and his wife were planning to move to Arnold and that he wished to look at homes. While the agent showed him a home, he drew a gun and raped her. He then robbed her of \$300 and forced her to drive him to another location where he took her keys and left on foot.

Highbarger said police are continuing to search for the suspect.

At 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Stirling Kyd, president of the Columbia Board of Realtors, issued a statement expressing the shock of the realty community in Columbia and announced the reward.

"What happened yesterday, happened to one of us — to one of our real professionals, to one of our best Realtors, and, above all, to one of our most respected, and most highly treasured friends," Kyd's statement read.

The statement said that the attack occurred while the Realtor was showing a home to a "normal-appearing, family-oriented home buyer," and as a result of the tragedy, "all Realtors are in a state of extreme emotional agitation and shock."

Richard Ward, of the Real Estate Center and one of 14 directors of the National Association of Realtors representing 18,000 Missouri Realtors, said Thursday that the attack was a tragedy.

"When you deal with the public, it's a high-risk profession," Ward said. "We are especially aware of the dangers female agents face."

Ward said that at his agency precautions are taken to safeguard female agents, including insisting that

See REALTORS, Page 8A



Anne C. Williams

## Circus comes to town

Heidi Staverman, foreground, and her daughter, Heather, watch the Shrine Circus parade Thursday night in downtown Columbia.

The circus is in town for performances at 7:45 p.m. today and Saturday at the Boone County Fairgrounds.

## Sales tax for soil sprouts on July 1

By Scott Cooper  
Missourian staff writer

Missourians will pay an extra tenth of a cent sales tax beginning July 1.

The new tax goes into effect as a result of a constitutional amendment narrowly passed by voters last November. The amendment authorized the additional tax for five years. Proceeds will be used by the state Department of Natural Resources to help prevent soil erosion and improve Missouri parks and historic sites.

In Columbia the tax rate will in-

crease from 6.125 cents per dollar to 6.225 cents. Businesses outside the city will collect 1½ cents less because Columbia sales tax is not assessed outside city limits.

Half the estimated \$30.5 million in new revenue will be devoted to soil conservation. With agriculture the leading industry in the state, Missourians have special cause to worry about erosion.

Among the 50 states, only Tennessee loses more topsoil annually than Missouri where an estimated 12 tons of soil are lost each year due to erosion.

The other half of the tax will be

used to maintain and improve the state's 47 state parks and 25 historic sites. Plans call for using a third of the parks' share of the money to develop new parks.

With the additional tax, the sales tax assessment breaks down like this: 3 cents of every dollar goes to state coffers, a penny goes to schools statewide, 1½ cents goes to Columbia's treasury, a half-cent benefits Boone County, an eighth of a cent goes to the Missouri Department of Conservation, and a tenth of a cent is used by the Department of Natural Resources for soil conservation projects and parks.

## Schools in state break fire code, official warns

By Michelle Carmichael  
Missourian staff writer

Life-threatening fire code violations are common in Missouri schools, said Paul Adams, Missouri Fire Training Institute director.

Statewide, large-occupancy buildings such as schools, nursing homes and hospitals ignore fire codes, and Hallsville is just one example, he said.

If fire code violations are not corrected, Adams said, students could suffer from smoke inhalation, entrapment in burning buildings, serious injury and even death.

Columbia Fire Marshal Alan Davison said Columbia schools are safe although they would not meet the National Fire Protection Code's life safety standards. The Boone County Fire Protection District adopted the standards Dec. 4, 1984.

"Hickman, for example, would be built differently under current life safety code standards," Davison said. "But as long as it and the other Columbia schools keep their fire protection devices operating, they are following our existing code requirements."

Adams said many buildings violate fire codes because Missouri cities and counties have just begun adopting and enforcing them.

"Had the codes been enforced at the time of construction, they would have cost the builders little or no expense to comply with. Once a building is constructed, even small alterations made to comply with code violations are expensive," he said.

Adams said that Missouri's adoption of a fire code would improve the state buildings, but because of the expense in upgrading buildings, the state has shied away from adopting codes.

The Boone County Fire Protection District issued the following correc-

tive measures Feb. 26 to the Hallsville school complex:

- Install smoke detectors to give occupants early warning of fire emergencies, cutting down on severe smoke inhalation.

- Standardize manual fire alarm systems to give easy access to people exiting a building in a fire.

- Install battery-operated emergency lighting to help people exit the building when the normal power source in the building breaks down.

- Eliminate flammable ceiling tile to reduce rapid fire spread. Ceilings made of flammable tile allow the fire to outrun the people exiting the building.

- Install fire walls and doors to stop the spread of the fire and enable the firemen to localize and control the fire.

- Eliminate wood partitions with flammable paneling in hallways to reduce rapid fire spread.

- Place heat-resistant, wired glass in corridor doors. Wired glass doors also keep fire from spreading immediately.

- Enclose stairwells to keep smoke from spreading up stairwells. Enclosed stairwells cut down on the possibility of severe smoke inhalation.

- Enforce good maintenance procedures that will keep hallways clear for exit during a fire.

Adams said safety mechanisms, specifically panic devices, are necessary because "human beings are creatures of habit and when those habits are disrupted or interfered with in any way, they panic."

Equipping buildings with these devices enables panicked crowds to exit quickly and avoid severe smoke inhalation, he said.

"It's the smoke and not the fire that kills people. Just because a building is equipped to cut down on fire spread does not mean that it is smoke spread safe," he said.

## Hickman High School wins nationwide award

By R. Michael Jenkins  
Missourian staff writer

Hickman High School has been selected as one of 212 winners nationwide in the 1984-85 Secondary School Recognition Program.

"This is a very exciting event," said Hickman Principal Kenneth Clark. "I hope the community will share in the excitement and pride that we feel."

In a news release from the U.S. Department of Education, Secretary of Education William Bennett announced the winners saying, "These schools represent the strength and vitality of America's pluralistic system of education. Their diversity provides clear evidence that all types of schools — public, private, urban, suburban, rural, large and small — are able to provide highly effective programs and rich educa-

tional experiences that foster excellence and transmit a love of learning to students."

Hickman was a finalist last year but did not win any of the prized awards. When asked what was different this year, Clark said he had no idea.

The award is based on information given by the schools on areas such as attendance and dropout rates, teachers' professional activities, student test performance, extracurricular activities, community involvement and curriculum.

A 20-page application was filled out by Hickman last December and submitted to the Missouri Department of Education. Missouri's 13 finalists were announced Jan. 17 and the applications, including Hickman's and Jefferson Junior High-

See AREA, Page 6A